

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Box Truck Hazmat Release RT 103 Chester, VT - Removal PoRep
Initial and Final Removal PoRep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region I

Subject: POLREP #1
Initial and Final POLREP
Box Truck Hazmat Release RT 103 Chester, VT
01NQ
Chester, VT
Latitude: 43.2224470 Longitude: -72.5390870

To: Polrep Distribution, USEPA-R1

From: Ted Bazenias, Federal OSC

Date: 6/15/2017

Reporting Period: 6/13/17 to 6/14/17

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	Contract Number:		
D.O. Number:	Action Memo Date:		
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Emergency
Response Lead:	PRP	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	6/13/2017	Start Date:	6/13/2017
Demob Date:	6/14/2017	Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:		RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	
FPN#:		Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Emergency Response following NRC notification

1.1.2 Site Description

On the evening of June 12, 2017, a plastic drum inside an 18 wheeled box truck trailer leaked about 55 gallons of nitric acid onto Route 103 near Chester, VT. The truck, operated by Clean Harbors, was transporting waste chemicals from a GE plant in Clarendon VT when the driver noticed the release and reported to the local authorities. RT 103 was closed to traffic in both directions until the hazardous materials incident was resolved.

1.1.2.1 Location

The truck and trailer were located on the roadside at 1116 Rt. 103 in Chester, VT. The immediate area is lightly a populated mixture of residential and commercial properties.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

A mixture of hydrochloric and nitric acid was released from a drum inside the trailer and leaked through the doorways to impact the roadway.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

Air monitoring in the trailer and pH test paper in released liquids were positive for nitric acid. These tests were performed by the Vermont Hazardous Materials Response Team (VTHMRT).

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

OSC Bazenias was mobilized at 2100hrs on June 13, 2017 and arrived at the scene at 0020 hrs on June 14, 2017. EPA integrated into the Unified Incident Command with the VTHMRT, Chester Fire Chief, and VT Dept of Transportation (VTRANS). The VTHMRT had completed initial entry into the trailer and confirmed HNO₃ vapors in the trailer. Clean Harbors (CH) was the responsible party and was assembling an entry team to begin removing the other 35 containers in the trailer to isolate the release. Other containers included oily solid wastes, sodium nitrate solutions, and more containers of mixed acids.

OSC Bazenias conferred with VTHMRT, the Chief and CH to develop a strategy for:

- removing, staging and stabilizing the remaining containers in the trailer
- isolating the leaking container

- performing a gross decontamination of the trailer, interior and exterior
- developing a plan for removing impacted soil from the roadside at the scene

At 0630hrs on June 14, 2017, all containers had been removed from the trailer and the compromised drum was isolated and over-packed. The label on the drum identified the contents as Hazardous Waste Class 8, D002, D006, D007, D008 - MIXED HYDROCHLORIC ACID AND NITRIC ACID . No other containers appeared to be compromised.

0700hrs - Another trailer arrived from CH to pick up and transport the remaining containers. A crew from CH wiped down the trailer exterior with a neutralizing solution of lime and water, and spread lime powder inside the trailer on the floor boards.

0900hrs - VT Department of Motor Vehicles Inspectors arrived to inspect the impacted trailer.

1000hrs - trailer loaded with remaining containers and newly generated waste containers from the cleanup activities. Labels and placards in place on the drums and trailer. CH team continues to wipe down the impacted trailer. VTDMV declares that the trailer can be moved from the roadside, but must be towed to the CH facility in Shelton CT.

1100hrs - Towtruck/wrecker arrived to transport the damaged truck and trailer.

- CH will return to the roadside to excavate impacted soils after clearance by DIGSAFE is procured and a roadway closure permit from VTRANS is in hand.

1200 hrs - the scene has been cleared and the incident emergency response is considered complete. RT 103 was re-opened.

1230hrs - OSC Bazenas departed the incident.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

See above.

2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)

Transporter:

Clean Harbors
20 Dunklee Road, Bow NH 03304

Generator of waste on board:

General Electric Company
270 Winsor Road, North Clarendon, VT 05759
EPA ID # VTD001075894

Transporter (Clean Harbors) assumed the responsibility for cleanup at the scene.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

Waste Stream	Medium	Quantity	Manifest #	Treatment	Disposal
PPE	solid	2 drums			
Acid in soil	solid	6 drums			

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

Excavation of soil at the roadside by CH will be conducted in the near future.

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

The OSC will follow up with VTDEC and Clean Harbors regarding excavation and disposal of the impacted soil at the roadside. VTDEC will oversee the excavation operation.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

See above.

2.2.2 Issues

2.3 Logistics Section

None.

2.4 Finance Section

2.4.1 Narrative

Responsible parties Clean Harbors and General Electric assumed financial responsibility for the clean up.

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

None

2.5.2 Liaison Officer

None.

2.5.3 Information Officer

None.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command
Chester, VT Fire Chief
VTHMRT Bruce Martin
Springfield Fire Dept
US EPA

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

Vermont Department of Transportation Andy Shively
Vermont Department of Motor Vehicles
Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation - Member of VTHMRT

4. Personnel On Site

EPA OSC Ted Bazenas
See above for local & state agency personnel.

5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

6. Additional sources of information

No information available at this time.

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.